

VOLUME VI — NO. 10

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY

JANUARY—FEBRUARY, 1949

1949 Construction Goal

A new year provides a new opportunity for service to the citizens of New Jersey. This is or should be the mood in which we all approach the tasks that lie ahead for 1949.

When Governor Driscoll addressed the opening session of the 1949 Legislature he outlined in detail wherein lies the opportunity for the service of government in this State to meet the more urgent human needs. It was appropriate that he should have placed civil liberties at the top of these needs. It is here that a clear, forward-looking declaration of our intentions is urgently required, which in turn is buttressed by a faithful support of those declarations.

Each generation must pay its installment in the cause of human freedom. Today that installment must be paid for a wider and more secure provision for civil liberties for all our citizens. Our new Constitution has made a bold declaration of our faith; we need to implement this declaration by the appropriate legislative guarantees.

Turning from civil liberties in his Annual Message, the Governor has listed some of the other familiar tasks of modern government—housing, social security, health, education, conservation, and the rest. On the question of highway transportation, the Governor's message is brief but pointed. It indicates not only a commendation of what has already been done but indicates what is our more urgent task. It will serve to emphasize some of the conclusions of the Chief Executive of this State to quote herewith this excerpt from his Annual Message:

COMMERCE AND TRANSPORTATION

"We are presently engaged in the largest highway building program in the history of the State. Continued support for this program is required for the reasons stated in my Inaugural Address, and repeated last year in my annual message. Representatives of each section of our State have impressed me on numerous occasions with the need for improvement and modernization of our highways in their respective areas. As evidence of the emergency character of the need to rebuild our highway system, I need only cite the accident record on Route 28, particularly in the Jugtown Mountain area, on Route 44 and, to a slightly lesser degree, on Route 43. Immediate plans have been made for the completion of the first two of these highways and the re-development of the latter. It is to be noted that these particular highways have been selected only for the purpose of illustration and not to the exclusion of other pressing highway construction plans. Basically, our task is to provide safe East-West and North-South highway transportation facilities with appropriate inter- and intra-city connections."

Nineteen forty-nine will afford us an opportunity to complete a number of major projects which have been started and carried forward vigorously during 1947 and 1948. The first section of our Parkway system should be opened during this year. The first link in the Trenton Freeway, the most important capital improvement in the metropolitan area of Newark and Harrison, the completion of the important connecting link of S-3 from Great Notch to Secaucus, the paving of a section of the Secaucus Bypass, the dualizing of Jugtown Mountain and the removal of this dangerous section of Route 28. These and many more improvements on our System during the year that lies ahead should give us the opportunity of fulfilling at once the promise of a more adequate transportation system for the citizens of our own State as well as for our neighbors beyond our borders. But what is even more important in the long run, the Highway program will provide that adequate balance in the transportation system which will not only serve the economy of the future but enable our citizens to come to a better appreciation of the resources of our own State and the privilege it is to live and work within its borders.

Severin Miller, Jr.
State Highway Commissioner

The HIGHWAY



A portion of the gathering singing carols at the Christmas services in the State House Annex. From the left at the table are E. E. Reed, Edward W. Kilpatrick, Commissioner Miller, Commander Noble, and A. Lee Grover. Others in the assemblage, will be recognized. The services took place on December 23, since Governor Driscoll had designated Christmas Eve as a holiday.

CASH AWARDS GIVEN TO NINE SUGGESTION BOX WINNERS

Wide Variety of Suggestions Recognized at the Annual Highway Christmas Services

(Pictures on page 3)

At the annual Christmas services held in the State House Annex on December 23 nine men representing five divisions of the State Highway Department were the recipients of cash awards under the plan recently authorized by Governor Alfred E. Driscoll. The awards, which ranged in value from \$5 to \$25.00, were granted in recognition of the outstanding merit of the suggestions they had submitted to the Suggestion Box.

The \$25.00 winners were George C. Jorgensen of Mansquan, a principal engineer in the

assistant of the Electrical Division.

Those receiving the \$10.00 awards were: Leland S. Buzby of Pleasantville, assistant district engineer of Survey and Plans Division; Wilbur H. Spencer, of Trenton, junior bridge designer, Bridge Division; Charles Groce of New Brunswick, laborer, Maintenance Division; Harvey A. Butterfoss of Trenton, assistant master mechanic, Equipment Division; and D. H. Johnston of Pennington, a principal engineer in the Central Construction Division.

Fulton H. Bonner of Pomona, assistant foreman in the Maintenance Division, was winner of the \$5.00 award.

Varied Suggestions

The suggestions upon which the awards were based covered a wide variety of subjects and were classified under three headings, namely, those on which a monetary savings can be estimated; those dealing with safety, personnel matters, health, etc.; and those of minor or convenience nature. Due to circumstances beyond their control, Johnston and Butterfoss were unable to be present to receive their awards.

The Christmas party itself followed the pattern set in former years, and was in keeping with the season. Old familiar Christmas carols were sung with enthusiasm to the accompaniment of a string trio composed of Albert Getz, Donald Torini, and George Kutach. The room was tastefully decorated by members of the landscape crew of Robert Green. Frank Reddan again arranged the program

Third Lecture Series Group Instruction March 7, 14 and 21

The first and second lecture series, Group Instruction for Field Men, held in March 1947 and 1948 respectively, having proved a success, Commissioner Miller and Commander Noble authorized the continuance of this program for 1949. The third lecture series, which is scheduled for Mondays, March 7, 14 and 21, 1949, will again be held at Trenton, Newark, and Woodlynne as in the previous years, under the general direction of Julius J. Newmark, Special Engineer.

The program is now being organized and it is expected that Samuel E. Bullock will serve as the general chairman for the Trenton area, Herbert K. Englishman will serve as the general chairman for the Newark area, and J. A. Williams as the general chairman of the Camden-Woodlyn area.

The lectures will be open to all Department employees subject to the authorization by the respective division and district engineers. Following each lecture there will be a question and answer period and it is anticipated that the lectures, together with the questions and answers, will be distributed in mimeographed form soon after the completion of the program.

Following are the subjects and lectures tentatively scheduled:

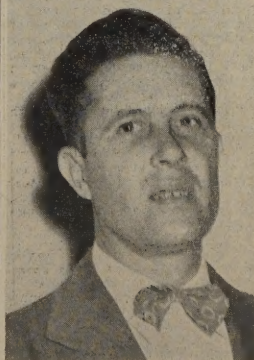
1. Latest Advances in Concrete Pavement Construction, Leon E. Andrews.

2. Practical Application of Soil Mechanics, Allen C. Ely, Edward A. Henderson, James R. Schuyler.

3. The Role of the Laboratory in Highway Construction; (a) bi-

(Continued on Page 4)

which, as is customary, featured an appropriate address by Commissioner Miller. A. Lee Grover was once more seen in his now familiar role of master ceremonies.



G. C. JORGENSEN

Survey and Plans Division; John W. Evans of Cranbury, assistant district engineer, also of Survey and Plans; and William B. Widmann of Trenton, electrical field

THE HIGHWAY

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SURVEY and PLANS

FRED C. CLAUS

CRANFORD

James Roper

Now that the holidays are over, we find our field and office forces back to something near their normal strength. Vacations took most of the men at one time or another during the month of December, and we had more than our share of illnesses. Tom Reilly and Henry Meyer are both back now after a short time on the sick list. Bob Rice and Mike Ritchie at this writing are still out. Bob had an attack of pneumonia and is now well along the road to recovery and expects to be back with us soon. Mike had an operation on his leg and we are happy to report that he, too, is recuperating.

We extend a cordial welcome to Mrs. Catherine Dugan, John Groll, and Norman Andreasen. Mrs. Dugan is our new stenographer. Jack has been assigned to Henry Meyer's party and Norm is taking assignments on Route 4, Parkway, Section 5, with Charlie Sideris' gang.

Bob and Mrs. Finch have taken up residence in their new home in Pines Lake.

Our Christmas party held Thursday, December 23, was well attended and enjoyed by all. The food was good, too.

We have retaining walls designed and redesigned, beams in all states of stress and strain, and rooms filled with eggs, kips, and wats: it might all have something to do with that Professional Engineers Exam.

Tom Reilly and Sy Berger who "held down" one corner of the office, have left us for the great out-of-doors. They are working with Dave Brooks' party on Section 2-4A of the Parkway. They are out there to handle any weighty problems which arise, no doubt.

LEWIS STREET OFFICE

Joe Cunningham

Russ Parker and Bob Mitchell left Trenton on the 9th of January. Destination: Norfolk, Va., where they will board the U. S. Battleship Missouri for a two-week training cruise.

Pete Petrino passed out cigars last week, the occasion being the birth of a son to Mrs. Petrino on January 2.

NEWARK

Ralph M. Perry

Harry Stover, the "little chief" of the Newark office, had a heart attack late in December caused by being a good samaritan. He is now obliged to take it easy for several weeks.

Since our chief, Howard Rigby, was assigned a brand new Ford, his former slightly used one was handed down to Austin Schenck. He evidently appreciates it after the ancient "Chevy" he has been propelling.

Alexander Desimone and Harold Lange assisted Santa Claus the week before Christmas in expediting the heavy rush of mail.

Max Brower is again testing his will power. He refrains from smoking for three months at this time of year. Why not make it permanent?

There seems to be a shortage of the usual snappy calendars. Could it be the morale of the office does not need a lift?

William Kauffman, a member of our survey crew, really believes in Santa Claus. A new Ford is a Christmas gift to talk about.

Alexander A. Dynes recently resigned from our forces to work with the Oregon State Highway Department. Perhaps he took the saying literally, "Go West, Young Man."

William T. Shader and Edward B. Miller, having completed their duties in the Montclair office, have resumed activities here.

Francis P. Geruth, junior engineer, recently joined our survey crew.

PLEASANTVILLE

John L. Beckley

This office was honored by a visit from Commander Noble, accompanied by Mr. Fred L. Gerard on December 17.

Construction of Route 43, Section 13B, White Horse Pike, has been started by J. R. Williams, contractor. E. M. Gillette is engineer in charge with George Patton and party taking care of staking.

Route 43, Stratford Drainage job, is also starting by Pangia

CAN YOU NAME THEM?



If you don't recognize all these fellows consult Frank Spagnola's Upper Montclair column.

Construction Co., contractor, Ben Franklin is engineer in charge with Art Best and party doing the staking.

Cliff Somers' wife was taking the dog for a walk the other day when it stopped to scratch the ground a little. Much to her amazement and gratification, a ring fell at her feet, which proved to be a diamond engagement ring that she had lost three weeks earlier. Cliff has taken over the dog-walking chore now in hopes that he will strike pay dirt.

The annual collection of new calendars has been censored by the boss. Maybe someday they will wear him down, but I doubt it.

TRENTON

Al Cohen

John W. Evans was awarded a \$25 prize at the annual Christmas gathering in the Highway Board Room for his suggestion recommending areas for truck parking along our heavily traveled highways.

Lew Hall and Willis Osborne recently participated in a radio interview which was recorded on wire and later broadcast over Station WBUD, Morrisville. The interview took place at Weinmann's Restaurant during the lunch hour and dealt with place of employment, length of service, and duties performed. Answers to the latter must have been unique.

Claire Congleton's heart-throb, a petty officer in the merchant marine, arrived home for the holidays and now the young lady may be seen sporting a very elegant wrist watch.

UPPER MONTCLAIR

Frank J. Spagnola

Re photo: Old pictures are always interesting, especially those of comrades and old friends. How many do you recognize in this 24-year-old photo taken on old Route 12 (now Rt. S-24) between Washington and Hackettstown? Reading from left to right are: W. L. Braybrooke, district engineer of the Division of Parkways; Al Heron, late bridge inspector; N. B. Sanwald, principal engineer at Montclair Office; Thomas LaBar, now employed by North Jersey Quarry Co., and F. L. Gerard, district engineer in Survey and Plans Division.

It is legend that at the Upper Montclair Office their Merry Christmas parties are always grand affairs. Good fellowship, and a healthy family spirit of brotherhood are the reasons for such fine programs—and that, like a priceless seed implanted in the breast of each man, emanates so often during the daily intercourse of highway business—with the friendly smile, the humorous quip, and the ever helping hand. Thanks to Jack Whitehead and Chester Elliot, whose fine piano-playing was instrumental (literally) in making our carol-singing Christmas program such a huge success.

WHY DOES: Bill Kunzler worry so much; Chas. Della Torre wear blue denims; Dud Demarest work so hard; Steve Bubier sound so hoarse; Paul Shidlowksi blush so easily; Dave Nicholas have such long legs; Harold Weiss chew gum; Pay-Day make one happy?

WHY IS: Johnny Nickens always so happy; Ed MacMahon so quiet; Johnny Moritz so studious; Cliff Malachuk so popular; Vince Prestigiacomo's hair so curly; Rocco DiGiacomo a busy man; Nick Amento always smoking and offering a cigarette to Carmen

Pappaceno; winter so cold? (We hate it!)

WE ALWAYS LIKE TO HEAR: Frankie Berberick sing; Ray Simpson walk; Rodger Coupe laugh; Normand Sanwald tell jokes; King Kettlewood talk about his farm; how well our construction jobs are progressing; the 5 o'clock whistle.

WE ALWAYS ENJOY SEEING: Johnny Matchett shaved; Johnny Lincoln's fancy ties; Charlie Matthews shuffle about the office; Tony Fuca's big smile; ditto for big Frankie Podwyszynski; the field survey crews paying us a visit.

WE ALWAYS LIKE TO SAY hello to all you members of the Department, and when we must—au revoir.

Highway Officials' Convention To Be Held in Boston

The Twenty-fifth Annual Meeting and Convention of the Association of Highway Officials of the North Atlantic States will be held on March 1, 2, and 3 at Boston, Massachusetts. Headquarters will be at the Hotel Statler where the Convention sessions will be held and where the Highway Industries Show will be located.

The preparation of the program is under the direction of Admiral William H. Buracker, Commissioner of Public Works of Massachusetts, and Chairman of the Program Committee, and an interesting series of addresses and discussion is promised.

Attendance arrangements and other details of the convention are again under the direction of Mr. A. Lee Grover, Secretary and Treasurer of the Association, and plans have already been made for a number of delegates from the Department to be present.

BEFORE A ROAD IS BUILT

The following poem entitled, "Before a Road Is Built," appeared in the July issue of Traffic Engineering. It was written by a member of the Ontario Department of Highway Engineering who remains anonymous. Its true ring shows that we share many mutual problems with our neighbors to the north.

When locating a road, states an old engineer,

We study on maps, all routes which appear
To be feasible, those which we think will rate

The money we will spend to investigate.

Then the traffic is counted, since we like to know

Where all the cars come from, and where they all go.

Next we charter a plane and these lines are all flown,

Aerial pictures taken, on which detail is shown

Which viewed by an expert under a stereoscope

Permit us to say of some proposals, "No soap."

Thus we narrow our choice down to two or three routes,

When the field engineer takes his level and shoots

Cross sections, from which we can calculate true

The amount of earthwork, cut and fill, we must do.

Then the real estate experts make a rough estimate

Of the property damage, the designers now state

The expense of all structures, so at long last we see

What the cost of the different proposals will be.

Then we re-check our figures, the whole scheme is revived,

All angles discussed and all doubters subdued.

And then and then only we decide it is fit

To say to the chief, "Sir, we think this is it."

The proposal's made public, the man in the street

Takes a casual look and cries with some heat:

"Ye gods, can you beat it! That dumb engineer

Proposes to build that new road over here.

Over there, I'll bet you could build it for half;

How those birds waste our money, oh, boy what a laugh!"

Your M. C.
presents—
THE LADIES...
Bless Them

After four years of Sparkling News Reporting Mable and Claire are... Turning the Ladies' Column over to Doris DeCarlo of the Maintenance Division. Miss DeCarlo can be reached on Extension 8107 whenever a news item pertaining to the Distaff Side comes to your attention. She will welcome your cooperation And... We welcome you, Miss DeCarlo.

Annual Meeting Of Credit Union Held

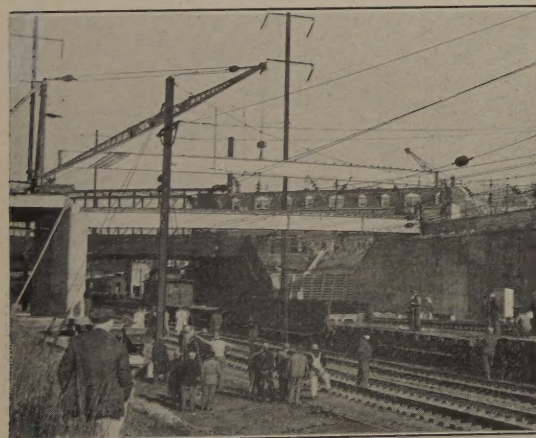
The 6th Annual Meeting of the Highway Credit Union was held in the Highway Board Room, State House Annex, on Thursday, January 27, with President Frederick M. Quinn presiding.

Officers elected were as follows: W. E. Beckner and Flavin A. Treton to the Board of Directors for 3-year terms; Harry Bellinson and George A. Hefferman to the Credit Committee for 3-year terms; and Frank Torkewitz, Agnes St. John, and Charles Ahr as members of the examining committee for the year 1949.

Reports were received and approved from Treasurer John A. Kilpatrick, Chairman of the Credit Committee Otto E. Seggel, and Chairman of the Examining Committee Frank Torkewitz.

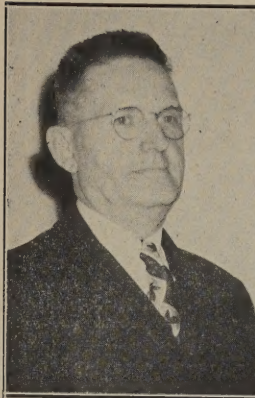
The balance sheet of the Treasurer's report shows that the assets of the Credit Union have increased during 1948 from \$14,200.00 on December 31, 1947, to \$19,143.00 as of December 31, 1948. Earnings for the year 1948 amounted to \$616.23, from which dividends totalling \$422.88 were distributed to share holders in semi-yearly payments of 2.4% for the first half of the year and 3.6% for the second half. During 1948 137 loans were approved in the amount of \$22,254.20.

Total membership in the Credit Union at the end of 1948 was 212, an increase during the year of 36 members. Membership in the Credit Union is open to all permanently employed members of the State Highway Department who live or work in Mercer County, or who report regularly to Mercer County Headquarters.



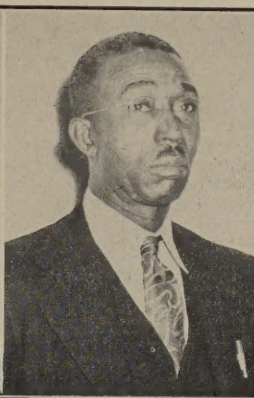
A 48-inch girder, 103 feet long, and weighing 20 tons, is swung into place over the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad where the Trenton Freeway will overpass that vital artery of transportation. The job of placing the girders on the abutments was a ticklish one since it entailed raising them between the high tension wires of the railroad and then swinging them around when high enough to gain clearance.

SUGGESTION BOX WINNERS



LELAND S. BUZBY
Survey and Plans

His suggestion recommending a reduction in the size of standard plan sheets resulted in the use of a smaller size tracing cloth with savings to the Department. He received a \$10.00 award.



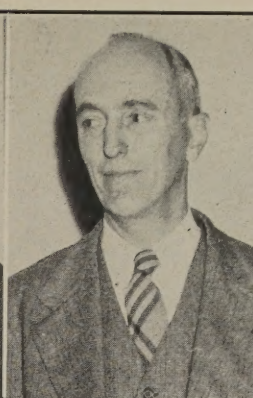
CHARLES GROCE
Maintenance Division

An award of \$10.00 was made to this suggester for recommending that a rear view mirror be placed on power mowing machines. After a year's trial it is felt that this suggestion has contributed toward greater safety.



FULTON H. BONNER
Maintenance Division

Five dollars was given to Mr. Bonner for his suggestion advocating the use of rubber safety guard when sharpening scythes. The guards suggested are now standard equipment.



JOHN W. EVANS
Survey and Plans

Another \$25.00 award winner who suggested the establishment of "off-the-road" parking areas along heavily traveled highways. His suggestion is being used for greater safety.



WILLIAM B. WIDMANN
Electrical Division

Recipient of the third \$25.00 award for his suggestion advocating the establishment of parking areas along Brunswick Pike (Route 26). This suggestion has been put into practice with beneficial results.

Administration Division

BILL WARD

Gene Palmer, hunting deer in the hills near Stockton, was severely hurt in an automobile accident. The car, coming down a steep grade, skidded and crashed into an abutment and Gene was smashed into the steering wheel, sustaining serious internal injuries. After a stay at Jefferson Hospital, he is now recuperating at his home in Stockton. Gene has had more than his share of sickness and injuries this past year, but the belief here is that come the baseball season, Gene will be out on the mound with all the old stuff.

While on vacation in Florida, Charles Hurley landed a sailfish 72 inches long and 140 lbs. in weight. The fish, as determined as his opponent, fought for an hour before he admitted defeat. The victor intends to rest on his laurels and leave all the rest of the fish in the sea to the younger generation.

At this writing, Jim Martin has recovered sufficiently to be able to move around. Jim has been undergoing treatment for years as a result of injuries received in World War I. Best of luck.

Man from this office came back from lunch one day and in a dismayed tone announced that he had lost an endorsed check for \$200. Otto Wolf and Kermit Bonner, now known as Holmes and Watson, took up the case. In a few moments, Bonner sang out, "Why that liar! It's only for \$198." He had left the check on his desk.

Ivring Schmidt, cryptogram expert and theatre goer, attended a performance of "Love Life" and then went to the Astor and Copacabana.

Otto Petersen now has a television in his home—and half the neighborhood, too.

Among the presents George Dederick received on his birthday was a huge peppermint cane. Says he likes peppermint.

Fellow by name of Walt Ditzen, who draws Fan Fare for a local paper, is such a favorite in this department that we've formed a Fan Club. Frank Dunn, president. He buys the paper, the rest of us freeloader.

PROJECTS PARAGRAPHS

E. L. MEYERS

The annual Christmas party, which is given for the Projects Office employees by the State Aid Projects Engineers, was held December 23 in the basement rooms at 205 West State Street.

A buffet lunch was served and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. This was the first time the party was held at the office and it turned out fine.

Our thanks to all the Projects Engineers and also to John Heuman and Ed Smith who attended to the eats, etc.

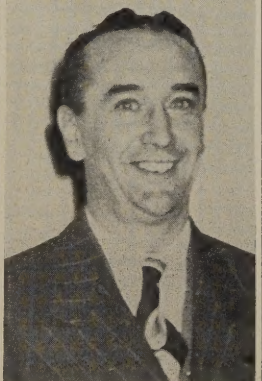
Frank Harris is vacationing in the South again for his health. Accompanied by his wife, he is visiting New Orleans for a short time and then going to Florida where he will visit his daughter at St. Petersburg. From there he will go to West Palm Beach to visit Harvey Snook, former Sussex County engineer.

Bill Quinn is now working in the office assisting Bill Wharton and Mary D'Arcy.

Frank Hullfish has received a certification for the position of senior auditor with the Electrical Division at 190 West State Street.

Al Sustick is leaving the Highway Department to take a position with the U. C. C. in the new building on Front Street.

Joe Aiello announced his engagement at Christmas to Miss Ann DeBlassio of Trenton. The wedding will be in June.



WILBUR S. SPENCER
Bridge Division

Ten Dollars was awarded to this suggester for his idea of installing exhaust fans in the main drawing room in Trenton. As a result of this idea, more desirable working conditions now prevail.

Maintenance Notes

CHARLES J. DOHERTY

The role of the Good Samaritan was played recently by Foreman VanBenthuyzen and his men during the snow storm of December 19 last. An ambulance, on its way to the South Amboy hospital with a woman and her expectant child, became stuck in a snow bank. Through the efforts of Van and his men, the ambulance was hauled out of the snow bank, and proceeded to the hospital, the child being born on the way. Mother and child have been doing nicely.

We extend our sympathies to the family of John J. Geagheon, clerk, who died recently of a heart attack. Mr. Geagheon had been working as a stock clerk and was with the Department for twelve years.

We also wish to extend our sympathies to the family of John Zerwick, of Hightstown, employed in Foreman Yannut's gang. Mr. Zerwick, who died just a few days ago, leaves a wife and two sons. He had been with the Department since 1923.

Charlie McGinnis and his wife spent New Year's at Roanoke, Va., proceeding from there to South Carolina where they spent the following week with Mac's in-laws. We imagine that down there in rebel territory the snow removal work must be cut down to little or none. Of course, that might be one of the reasons Mac went down there.

Russ Geller, shortly after Christmas, had trouble with his dental plate, making it necessary to come to work sounding as if he were learning a foreign language. Russ said that if the trouble had developed before Christmas he might have joined Spike Jones' orchestra and given a very fine rendition of: "All I Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth."

All of us in the Maintenance Division offices extend our thanks to Doris, Dottie, and Joan for a very fine job of Christmas decorating. The place was really decked out in fine style for the holidays and caused favorable comment from all who came in. The mistletoe was put in just the right place, too, and quite a few of the fellows had a bit of explaining to do when they got home.

BRIDGE BRIEFS

WILBUR SPENCER

The Bridge Division is looking forward to the 18th annual dinner to be held at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark on February 21.

Among recent office visitors were Jack Koffler, Art Stetser, Jim Whitehead, and John Krieg.

Dave Lawshe is on the sick list. We all wish him a speedy recovery and by the way, why not drop him a card?

Fred Hunter and Ralph Titsworth are sporting new cars . . . Morris Goodkind is receiving congratulations upon the marriage of his younger son, Donald . . . George Hefferman is back from Florida where he enjoyed a Christmas dip in the surf . . . Rumors are to the effect that Leon Tracy, the big hunk of Notre Dame full-back, will wed a Highland Park beauty on May 8.

Best wishes to Jack Evans who was married to Mary Moore on January 22 in the church of the Incarnation in Trenton. The only available honeymoon information is to the effect that they departed from Trenton on an eastbound train.

A warm welcome to John Stanley and Joseph Malone, bridge dealers who recently joined our staff . . . and a speedy recovery to Nick Dondiego who is off on sick leave.

EQUIPMENT ITEMS

JAMES O'ROURKE

Frank Cleary, chauffeur for John Carr, Sr., is vacationing for three weeks in Dallas, under orders of his physician who prescribed the Texas climate for the relief of a bronchial condition.

Morton Lawrence and his son, Merton, Jr., killed a deer while gunning near Harborton. They were sitting on a log taking a well-earned rest when the buck walked into a clearing in the woods in perfect position for a shot. Both fired and Merton—senior or junior, we'll never know which—brought down a nice supply of venison.

Russell Cook is one member of Fernwood who can be found at home seven nights a week. A G.E. television receiver is the answer.

We were deeply grieved by the recent death of John T. Geagheon, for many years a member of the Purchase and Stores forces in Fernwood. Jack will be fondly remembered by all who were associated with him for his interest in his co-workers.

Congratulations to Kenneth Emmons who announced the birth of a daughter born to Mrs. Emmons on January 12 at Mercer Hospital, Trenton. And while on the marital subject, best wishes to Leon Crank who celebrated his 40th wedding anniversary on January 20.



Governor Alfred E. Driscoll cuts the ribbon, officially opening two northbound lanes of the Newark viaduct, Route 25 (U.S. Route 1), connecting Port Street and the Pulaski Skyway. He is assisted by Freeholder Clayton E. Freeman of Essex County, on the Governor's right, and Grady Smith, the boy governor, elected at the annual Youth Legislature. On the left are Ranford J. Abbott, secretary to the Governor, and Edward W. Kilpatrick, assistant State Highway engineer. At the extreme right is State Highway Commissioner Spencer Miller, Jr.

CLAYTON RETIRES



When Walt Clayton, bridge operator, retired on November 30 after eleven years with the Department, his co-workers on the Rt. 4N Shark River Bridge presented him with a smoking stand and appropriate accessories for many hours of leisure. The above photo, taken at the time of presentation in front of the operator's house on the bridge, shows Clayton, seated, and standing from left to right: Charlie Kisselman, Jim Lipari, Bill Koerber, Orville Stillwell, Ben Newman, Percy Stuermann, Norman Hope, Ward Dean, Joe Smith, and Supervisor Ed Downs.

Bridge Employees Elect Officers

The State Bridge Employees Association, composed of bridge operators and attendants employed by the State Highway Department, elected a complete slate of officers for the coming year at their December meeting in North Arlington. James Lipari, of Belmar, was named president for the 7th consecutive year.

In addition to Lipari the following were elected to office: Charles Simonton, first vice-president; Dan Glendenning, second vice-president; Phineas Marr, third vice-president; Harry Ober, financial secretary; Walter Holtgren, recording secretary; Harold Vaughn, treasurer; Joseph Hargrove, sergeant-at-arms; Harold Lloyd, trustee.

In addition to the above officers, the Association named a representative from each district for the purpose of forming closer ties between various sections of the State. These men are: Charles Simonton, northern; Dan Glendenning, southern; James Lipari, central. These are the men designated to be contacted by members for the purpose of handling Association business.

The next regular meeting of the Bridge Employees will be held in Camden in March.

To Take Statements On Wire Recorder

Keeping pace with modern methods of making accurate, permanent records of the spoken word, Commissioner Miller recently authorized the purchase by the State Highway Department of a wire recorder. This machine, which picks up sound waves with a microphone and records them on a spool of wire, will be used in taking statements of all kinds as well as for recording hearings of various nature.

The wire recorder has been assigned to the Compensation and Claims office of Charles I. Levine, where daily sessions have been devoted to becoming familiar with every phase of its operation. Tests to date have included recording round table discussions by sizeable groups as well as extemporaneous and prepared statements by individuals. In recording these many voices a great variety of microphone distances and modulations were used in an effort to arrive at the best performance levels.

Aside from Levine, it is anticipated that the recorder will be used by Richard A. Snyder, Raymond A. Callahan, and Domenic Pugliese, all of Compensation and Claims, in the routine performance of their duties. Its use should prove to be a boon to accuracy in taking statements, as well as to serve as a time saver over older methods.

LABORATORY LINES

CHRIS KUCKER

The Laboratory halls were gaily decked during the holiday season. Everyone appreciated the thought and patience taken in making the decorations possible. All gathered in the main hall on Thursday before Xmas to sing carols prior to joining the festivities held in the Commission Room.

Commander Noble's visit to the Lab to personally convey his holiday greetings was a pleasant surprise and his sincere wishes were deeply appreciated.

Frank Schroeder was stricken on Christmas day with acute appendicitis. An immediate operation was performed. Slight complications kept him hospitalized for 12 days before he could return home to a very late Christmas.

Jennie Houman and husband Johnny proffered the "palms" to the "pines," spending the holidays under sunny skies at Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

"Dutch" and Mrs. Scheifer, as is their usual custom, enjoyed their "turkey and trimmings" in Raleigh, N. C.

Bill Ryan was host to the Asphalt Plant Inspectors at their annual Christmas party, entertaining the group at his home. Cards, refreshments, and just plain talk highlighted the gathering.

Not that Jack Uhler does not like meat, potatoes, and gravy, but that he prefers the mollusk was shown recently at lunch when he ordered Blue Points, oyster stew, and topped them off with a half dozen fries. This is known as "across the board." Andy Decker ordered the same and, not to be outdone, brought home a box of fries for the Missis.

Helen Lansing, a former employee, recently paid us a visit, bringing along her bouncing boy—cute, just like his mother.

Mr. and Mrs. George Hutchinson became the proud parents of a daughter, Ellen, born on December 12. Mother and daughter are doing fine.

Leon Cartlidge, Jack Fallon and Fred Forrest all back on the job for the New Year, looking fine and feeling fit after serious illnesses in 1948.

Bob Gleason, a veteran of the Navy, recently joined the Laboratory staff. Welcome, Bob.

John T. Geagheon

John T. Geagheon, 66, died on December 15 as the result of a heart attack suffered while in the performance of routine duties at Fernwood. He was rushed to nearby Mercer Hospital where he was pronounced dead upon arrival.

Mr. Geagheon entered the employ of the Highway Department in October, 1935, with the Maintenance Division. In February, 1943, he moved to the Division of Purchase and Stores, where he was employed upon his death. In his younger days he was a tireless worker in various youth movements and during the past summer a group of his former proteges tendered him a testimonial dinner at which time he received many fine gifts.

Mr. Geagheon is survived by his wife, Sarah; a son, Russell; a daughter, Mrs. Margaret Whitely; and two grandchildren. To these survivors THE HIGHWAY extends deepest sympathies on behalf of the Department.

ELECTRICAL FLASHES

JOSEPH MAHAN

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Eades who celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary on December 26. Jack has been with the Department for twenty of those years and we hope there are many more ahead of him.

Herman Schelter, operator on the Rt. 25 Hackensack River Bridge, entered the hospital on January 7 to have a cataract removed from his eye. We presume that he was having trouble reading the "Electrical Flashes," so decided to undergo the operation.

DOGS RESCUED: At 11 o'clock on the night of Dec. 29, Garrett Skillman, operator on the Rt. 13 Lovelandtown Canal Bridge, heard a commotion in the icy water and discovered that it was caused by two dogs struggling against the 6' bulkhead. He called his co-worker, Bob Kinsley, who lives near the bridge and was off duty at the time, and by forming a human chain they rescued the two dogs and sent them on their way to a happy new year.

Just as Bob Raemussen was rolling a reel of cable past the boiler room in Bldg. No. 20, Fernwood, the heater "blew up," the explosion also forcing open the outside doors of the building. Bob disappeared so quickly that he still is suspected by some of breaking through the doors in his haste to depart.

A hearty welcome is extended to recent additions to our forces: Elwood Hansel, R. W. Berner, and Frank Gajewski, of the Bridge Bureau; and Oliver Davenport and John Rochford, of the

BRIDGE DIVISION WILL BE HONORED FOR OUTSTANDING BASCULE BRIDGES

18th Annual Dinner of Club Will be Occasion of Awards

Monday evening, February 21, will mark another milestone in the history of the Bridge Division. On this occasion they will not only celebrate their 18th annual dinner, but will occupy an

The "Suggestion News"

At Christmastime a small multi-graphed paper entitled, "Suggestion News," made its initial appearance. This little paper which carries news of the Suggestion System of the State Highway Department will be distributed six times a year to all employees. Its publication dates will be the first of January, March, May, July, September, and November, and in this manner will stagger its distribution with that of THE HIGHWAY which also appears bi-monthly.

The "Suggestion News" is edited by the Suggestion Committee and is run off in the Department mimeographing room. Its distribution is handled through the channels set up by THE HIGHWAY. We welcome this worthwhile addition to State Highway activities and feel sure that it will prove to be most valuable in promoting efficiency through the medium of suggestions.

Lear Named Commodore Of Cape May Tuna Club



LT. COMMANDER DONALD W. LEAR

Landscape Foreman Donald W. Lear was recently elected commodore of the Cape May Tuna Club. This honor is well placed because for many years Lear has actively engaged in the sport and has a background intimately associated with the sea.

He is a Lieutenant (jg) U. S. Coast Guard Reserve; a harbor master for the Department of Commerce and Navigation; commands all South Jersey Flotillas of the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary with the rank of Lieutenant Commander. In this capacity he has charge of the flotillas out of Ocean City, Stone Harbor, Wildwood, Cape May, and Millville, consisting of 150 boats and about 500 men.

Lear is the owner of a 36-foot cruiser, the "One-Bel," on which he and Mrs. Lear live throughout the summer. During that season he anchors at Mays Landing, where the landscape office is located, and from there enjoys week-end cruises.

1947-1948 Annual Report

A report covering the activities of the State Highway Department for the 1947-48 fiscal year will be ready for distribution by the time this issue of THE HIGHWAY reaches you. This striking booklet, which was edited by Vincent Lanigan, sets a high standard through its comprehensive coverage and pleasing presentation. Prolifically illustrated with photographs, charts, and maps, it tells in a concise manner the many operations of a vast State agency.

The 1947-48 report was printed in Engelwood by the Bergen Press of Frank Osmer, Jr. Get hold of a copy and look it over. You'll agree it's a fine job.

when they receive two national awards from the American Institute of Steel Construction. The Hotel Robert Treat in Newark has been selected as the location for the affair.

Plans are under way to accommodate between 650 and 700 persons on this occasion. If plans do not go astray, the list of notables who will attend will be headed by Governor Alfred E. Driscoll to whom an invitation has been extended by Commissioner Spencer Miller, Jr. In addition to the Governor, the Commissioner, State Highway Engineer Charles M. Noble, and many prominent personages in the engineering and contracting fields, Mr. T. R. Higgins, Director of Engineering for the A. I. S. C., will attend for the purpose of presenting awards on behalf of the Institute. Awards in each instance will be made to Commissioner Miller, on behalf of the Highway Department; Morris Goodkind, bridge engineer, the designer of the fixed portions of each bridge; Bethlehem Steel Company, the fabricator; and Howard, Needles, Tammen and Bergendoff, designers of the bascule portions of the bridges.

Awards will be made in the class of movable bridges. The State Highway Department structures which have been selected from our national field of entries are the Absecon Boulevard Bridge (Route 56) over Beach Thoroughfare, and Cheesecake Creek Bridge at Sayreville. The former received first prize for bridges constructed in 1948; and the latter was awarded a belated honorable mention for 1943 due to the suspension of awards during the war years.

Club Has Steady Growth

The Bridge Division Club was originally organized in 1931 following a dinner for the employees which Morris Goodkind, bridge engineer, gave the men with the proceeds from an article he had written on the College Bridge at New Brunswick. The idea of bringing together office and field men appealed so thoroughly that the annual dinners have taken place ever since. In due time those on the outside who were affiliated with the work of the Division were included until these affairs are attended by upwards of 600 persons.

The committee in charge of this year's dinner consists of Wilbur H. Spencer, chairman; L. P. Shortz, J. H. Patrick, Sven Hedin, and William Simon. Tickets are being handled by a committee made up of R. E. Simon and J. J. Koffler.

The officers of the Bridge Division Club are: John F. Evans, president; J. J. Kreig, first vice-president; Fred C. Dileo, second vice-president; L. P. Shortz, secretary; R. E. Simon, treasurer; and A. P. Gabrenas, assistant secretary.

Third Lecture Series

Group Instruction

March 7, 14 and 21

(Continued From Page 1)

tuminous materials and their relation to highway construction, W. J. Ryan; (b) concrete materials and their relation to highway construction, W. A. Johnson.

4. Economic Soil Highways and Toll Roads, O. H. Fritzsche, Max Wegman.

5. Right-of-Way Acquisition in Relation to Highway and Parkway Construction, John W. Aymer, Thomas A. Stewart.

6. Parkway Standards, Construction, and Roadside Development, Oliver Deakin.

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7. Relationship and Cooperation Between Contractor and Engineer, H. D. Robbins, and contractor to be named later.

The laboratory suggested that a separate day be arranged for each location for a demonstration of asphalt pavers. This demonstration will be arranged by and under the supervision of W. J. Ryan of the Laboratory.